

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/FI 03/00540

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: G06F 17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| X | EP 1052576 A2 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO, LTD), 15 November 2000 (15.11.00), page 2, line 5 - line 8; page 3, line 19 - line 25; page 3, line 30 - page 4, line 55, page 5, line 50 - page 11, line 11, claims 1-3, abstract | 1,5-7 |
| Y | -- | 2-4 |
| X | US 5377281 A (BALLARD, B.W. ET AL), 27 December 1994 (27.12.94), column 7, line 27 - line 36; column 7, line 60 - column 8, line 52, abstract | 1,5-7 |
| | -- | |



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 Sept 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

06-10-2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

Swedish Patent Office

Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM

Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86

Authorized officer

Asa Viken /LR

Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

Best Available Copy

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/FI 03/00540

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | SHANG, H. et al.: Tries for Approximate String Matching. IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering, vol.8, no.4, August 1996. See pages 540-547, figure 5 and abstract -- | 2-4 |
| A | US 6377945 B1 (RISVIK, K.M.), 23 April 2002 (23.04.02), column 3, line 15 - column 4, line 63; column 7, line 12 - line 49; column 9, line 34 - column 10, line 21, column 11, line 64 - column 12, line 3, abstract -- | 1-7 |
| A | UKKONEN, Esko: Finding Approximate Patterns in Strings. Journal of Algorithms 6, 132-137 (1985). See page 132-137 and abstract -- ----- | 1-7 |

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1998)

Best Available Copy

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

06/09/03

International application No.

PCT/FI 03/00540

| Patent document cited in search report | | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | | Publication date |
|---|---------|----|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| EP | 1052576 | A2 | 15/11/00 | NONE | | |
| US | 5377281 | A | 27/12/94 | NONE | | |
| US | 6377945 | B1 | 23/04/02 | AT | 212736 T | 15/02/02 |
| | | | | AU | 4937099 A | 01/02/00 |
| | | | | BR | 9912015 A | 10/04/01 |
| | | | | CA | 2337079 A | 20/01/00 |
| | | | | CN | 1317114 T | 10/10/01 |
| | | | | DE | 69900854 D,T | 22/08/02 |
| | | | | DK | 1095326 T | 13/05/02 |
| | | | | EP | 1095326 A,B | 02/05/01 |
| | | | | SE | 1095326 T3 | |
| | | | | ES | 2173752 T | 16/10/02 |
| | | | | HU | 0201630 A | 28/08/02 |
| | | | | IL | 140606 D | 00/00/00 |
| | | | | JP | 2002520712 T | 09/07/02 |
| | | | | NO | 311657 B | 27/12/01 |
| | | | | NO | 983175 A | 11/01/00 |
| | | | | NO | 993413 A | 11/01/00 |
| | | | | PL | 345714 A | 02/01/02 |
| | | | | PT | 1095326 T | 31/07/02 |
| | | | | WO | 0003315 A | 20/01/00 |